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 G. LUGAN FAYNE & CO. CHICAGO

W. J. O'NEILL
 1231 Broadway, New York City
 Telephone 1231
 1231 Broadway, New York City
 Telephone 1231
 1231 Broadway, New York City
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SUMMONS TO THE PATRIOTIC.

Technically the strike of railroad workers announced to begin at the end of this month would be for restoration of the wage rates which were in effect prior to July 1 last. Actually, it appears, the purpose of the threat is to cause the transportation companies to abandon their plans for a further reduction. This procedure has long been familiar to the public. In the present instance, however, there looms a factor, never before introduced in precisely the same way, that unquestionably will become dominant in crystallizing sentiment which in the long run will prove decisive.

The saving to the carriers through reducing wages is to be passed on to the people by a sliding of freight and passenger rates, provided the interstate commerce commission gives its consent to changes of schedules. If it refuses to approve rate reductions, which are commonly held indispensable to a revival of general business and a restoration of prosperity, strike orders probably would be recalled, since there was convincing evidence that the union leaders would not have authorized a walk-out to recover lost wages if a further reduction had not been proposed. If it approves, the strike will be against the general public, rather than a contest between the unions and the corporations. It will appear to most people as an indefensible obstruction to efforts designed to promote the general welfare through stimulating business and relieving the unemployment situation.

Obviously there is here a call for intelligent and dispassionate consideration by all those who are directly concerned in the wage controversy and for action in accordance with the wise conclusions which such consideration compels. The people also will think and decide patriotically, for the threatened situation is a summons to unselfish devotion to country.

NO NEED FOR MORE GOLD.

The only justification for a governmental subsidy to any industry is that the country stands greatly in need of the products or services of that industry and that private enterprise unaided is unable to supply the want. It is impossible to sustain a claim that the United States is in need of more gold at this time, its reserve being the greatest in its history and far more than its requirements for monetary purposes. Production of gold throughout the world has fallen

off very greatly in the last several years, due to increasing costs of operating mines without a corresponding enhancement of value of the metal. But the abnormal conditions will be gradually eliminated by economic processes.

When foreign countries which have been virtually stripped of gold are able to attract some of our supply to their coffers a profitable market for new gold undoubtedly will be found. Subsidizing the production of that which is not required would not be good business. Though the house has passed a gold subsidy bill, it is to be hoped the senate will act unfavorably.

FOR A SHORTER SERIES.

Commissioner Landis seems to be on firm ground in recommending that the next series for the baseball world championship consist of seven instead of nine games as the maximum. He is concerned with preserving the lively interests of the general public in the national game, the factor upon which it depends for its support, and there is no doubt that the series this year was too long drawn out for all but a few of the most enthusiastic fans. What is wanted as a fitting sequel to the regular playing season is a brief, snappy series of contests where the true spirit of sport is emphasized and less stress is placed on the financial winnings of the players. Much sentiment has been voiced against the big monetary rewards made possible by the high prices charged for admission and reserved seats.

When there is a clash between the financial interest of owners and players and the public interest there should be no doubt as to which should give way. A shorter world series next time and lower prices, with the soft pedal on the cash register—there is the way to strengthen the interest of the followers of professional baseball and keep the game on the plane where it belongs.

FRIENDS IN CONFERENCE.

Announcement that the enlarging of the British delegation to the Washington armament conference to include six members, so as to make possible the presentation of three of the dominions, will cause no change in the size of our own country's delegation, which constitutes its greatest strength. Each nation, it is said, shall feel free to send as few or many delegates as it desires, kindly keeping in mind President Harding's wish that the conference shall not become so large as to be unwieldy.

It is true that the United States government made first announcement of its delegation of four members, but it had no intention of setting a numerical precedent. Our delegation is regarded as fully representative, and as capable of presenting the American attitude on reduction of armaments and on the far eastern questions as if it were twice the size. The British had not expected to send more than four delegates until the desirability of representation for Australia, New Zealand and Canada was realized. The far eastern questions, rather than armament reduction, hold for them the chief interest. Indeed, their interests in the Pacific come nearer to those of the United States than most nations.

There is every indication that the coming conference will possess exactly the character desired by President Harding; that it will be a gathering for "friendly conversations" in which a sincere effort will be made to gain each other's point of view and the peculiar problems and circumstances of each nation will receive sympathetic consideration. Many difficulties undoubtedly will be encountered, but the encouraging thing is the spirit that is being shown by the nations invited to what may prove to be the most important international meeting in the world's history.

The - Passing - Show

MANY persons as we find it
 WOULD be willing to practice thrift
 IF they did not have to
 GIVE up their pet indulgences.

OUR own fall-fashion
 SUGGESTION for the day

WE believe we'd rather continue
 TO guess whether knees

ARE dumpy or not
 HAVING seen elbows.

IF a man calls another man
 A horse thief when he

MEETS him it is a sign that
 HE likes him but if he calls him

SH. It is a sign that he
 HASN'T much use for him.

THERE may not be
 MORE of it but the

BAD luck gets more attention
 THAN the good luck.

WE shall soon be getting mail
 BY air and already, if our

INDULGENT and fortunately gentle
 READERS will excuse us

IN these days of oil and rubber
 WE are getting air by mail.

THE family skeleton
 IS the liveliest thing in the

HOUSEHOLD in a whole
 LOT of homes.

CONSUMPTION of ice cream in the
 U. S.

HAS increased 100,000,000 gallons
 SINCE

PROHIBITION went into effect
 AND better than that no one ever

STARTED to beat up his wife on ice
 cream.

OUR dear pastor says
 THAT rather than be damned

WITH faint praise
 HE would be praised with faint

damns.

ONE Hammond man we
 KNOW, knows just enough

ABOUT the Bible to get sore as
 THE dickens when somebody

CALLS him Achanias.

EVERY married man
 BELIEVES that the neighbor woman

TELLS his wife more
 THAN is good for her.

IT has come to the point
 WHERE practically the entire

POPULATION is either riding in
 MOTOR cars or

WALLOWING around under them.

PROBABLY it isn't very important
 BUT sometimes when barbers are

CUTTING each other's hair
 WE often wonder if they try to

WORK in a shampoo or a massage.

HOW MUCH
 DO YOU KNOW?

What is "Cotton Monday?" Ans.
 It is an old English term applied to

the last Monday before Lent, from the
 custom of cutting meat in strips or

collops and salting it to keep it during
 the Lenten season.

Why do we speak of our ambassador
 to England as ambassador to the

court of St. James? Ans. St. James
 palace was the London residence of

British kings from the time of Wil-
 liam Third to the accession of Queen

Victoria. During this period the term
 came into general use.

What causes the puffing sound of
 locomotive makers? Ans. It is caused

by the used up steam, technically known
 as "exhaust." The exhaust is fired in

to the smokestack for the purpose of in-
 creasing the draught. It is the fir-

ing of the steam in this unusual way
 which causes the depression which

is felt in the neighborhood of the
 locomotive.

What is the area of Guam?
 210 square miles.

How much territory was added to
 the United States by the treaty with

Spain in 1898?
 10,985 square miles.

Is Chick Evans an amateur or
 professional golfer?
 Who is commander-in-chief of the
 U. S. army?
 What is the horse power of a
 Liberty motor?
 What is a gypsy flyer?
 In aviation what is a zoom?
 What states have the smallest rep-
 resentation in the electoral college?
 What is Leon Trotsky's real name?
 In what book of the Bible are
 the ten commandments found?

ANSWERS TO SATURDAY'S QUESTIONS

1—Where do we get the expression
 "cold shoulder?" Ans. In medieval days

in France it was customary to serve hot
 soups when entertaining guests. If the

guests overstayed their welcome a cold
 shoulder was served instead of a hot

one.

2—How does the density of popula-
 tion of China compare with that of the

United States? Ans. If the popula-
 tion of this country and 49,000,000 was

crowded into the state of Texas the
 density of population would compare

with that in China in the valley of the
 Yang-tze Kiang and the Hoanghe

rivers.

3—Who invented the sewing machine?
 Ans. The Chinese are believed to have

been the first to use needles of steel.
 The use of the needle dates back to

antiquity.

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